

TOCKLAI EXPERIMENTAL STATION
TEA RESEARCH ASSOCIATION
JORHAT 785 008, ASSAM

MONTHLY BULLETIN

OCTOBER 2008

The following is the summary of Crop, weather, Pest and disease in different regions of N.E. India during the month under review.

Region: UPPER ASSAM

Sub Area	Crop position (% + /-)		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
Dibrugarh	+ 0.9	- 2.3	83	8	31	20
Panitola	- 4.1	At par	90	9	31	20
Tingrai	+ 13.3	- 1.1	87	7	32	21
Doomdooma	+ 9.7	+ 0.1	112	9	30	20
Mergherita	- 8.2	- 2.9	101	7	32	21
Naharkatia	- 8.0	- 12.0	114	7	32	21
Moran	+ 1.5	- 2.5	124	7	32	21

Remarks:

The weather was favourable for crop in the month of October with respect to frequency and intensity of rainfall as well as temperature. Tingrai and Doomdooma sub areas harvested good quantity of crop during the month and up-to-date crop was nearly at par with the last year. Dibrugarh and Moran sub areas could narrow the difference in to-date crop. But Naharkatia could not recover from early setback and remained 12% behind. The degree of infestation of Helopeltis and its control achieved played a significant role in crop loss in Panitola and Margherita sub areas during the month under review. With nearly 4% gain in crop during the month, the to-date crop of Upper Assam has remained behind by about 2.35% at the end of the month.

Region: SOUTH BANK

Sub Area	Crop position (% + /-)		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
Jorhat	+ 5.6	- 10.4	125	8	32	21
Golaghat	+ 0.4	- 1.8	90	8	31	22
Sonari-Nazira	- 3.9	- 10.3	77	8	31	23

Remarks

Crop during the month in Jorhat sub area remained ahead by about 6% and in Golaghat sub area was at par. However, in case of Sonari Nazira area it remained behind by about 4%. In respect of to-date crop all the sub areas remained behind in comparison to last year. During the month rainfall was deficit in Golaghat and Sonari Nazira sub areas while in Jorhat sub area it was almost at par to normal. Rainfall during the season remained deficit in all the sub areas than the normal. In all the sub areas maximum temperature during the month was higher than the normal, however, minimum temperature was at par with normal. Pests/diseases in all the sub areas during the month remained at a lower level of infestation.

Region: NORTH BANK

Sub Area	Crop position (% + /-)		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
Nowgaon	+ 5.0	- 2.0	95	6	30	18
Tezpur	+ 6.0	+ 5.0	92	5	29	17
Biswanath	+ 4.0	+ 6.0	103	6	29	17
N. Lakhimpur	+ 6.0	+ 7.0	105	8	29	18
Borsola	+ 5.0	+ 5.0	90	5	28	20
Mangaldoi	+ 7.0	+ 6.0	101	7	29	19

Remarks:

Crop during the month remained ahead in all the sub areas as compared to corresponding period of last year. In to-date crop, except Nowgaon sub area, all other sub areas of North Bank remained ahead. Rainfall during the month although was lesser than last year it was received by all the sub areas which was reflected in crop. Sporadic incidence of Red spider only recorded during the month without any major concern of other pests and diseases.

Region: CACHAR

Sub Area	Crop position (% + /-)		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
Happy Valley	+ 14.4	+ 19.9	168	11	33	20
Chutlabheel	+ 3.5	+ 12.2	234	11	32	25
North Cachar	+ 2.7	+ 8.1	103	9	35	27
Hailakandi	+ 15.0	+ 11.7	276	11	34	24
Longai & Karimganj	+ 9.9	+ 10.2	303	11	39	16

Remarks:

During the period under review the weather condition remained favourable for good growth of shoots and the estates of the valley recorded higher crop production for the month compared to last year. Most of the estates remained ahead in the to-date production also. In the pest & disease front incidence of Termite, Helopeltis, Red spider mite, Black rot were reported from specific locations.

Region: TERAI

Sub Area	Crop position (% + /-)		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
North Terai	+ 23.6	+ 4.3	164	5	32	23
South Terai	+ 2.7	+ 3.7	157	6	34	22
West Terai	+ 13.1	+ 8.3	119	5	33	22

Remarks:

On an average, all the sub areas in Terai harvested higher crop during the month in comparison to the corresponding period of last year. In to-date crop also all the sub areas registered higher crop than last year. Little variation existed in quantum of rainfall and number of rainy days as reported by the estate from different sub areas. But the rainfall was substantial to support good growth of shoots. Temperature both maximum and minimum remained favourable for crop. As regards to insect pest, infestation of Helopeltis, Red spider mite in patches was reported from gardens.

Region: Darjeeling

Sub Area	Crop position (% + /-)		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
Darjeeling West	+ 1.0	NA	82	5	30	15
Darjeeling East	+ 2.0	NA	82	5	23	14
Teesta Valley	+ 5.0	NA	94	6	27	17
RungBung Valley	+ 1.0	NA	46	4	24	15
Kurseong	+ 2.0	NA	93	6	28	18
Mirik Valley	+ 4.0	NA	84	6	27	16

Remarks:

The crop during the month under review was ahead in all the sub areas of the region compared to crop of corresponding period of last year. The rainfall received by all the sub areas except Rung Bung valley and Kurseong was higher during the month which is well reflected in terms of crop. Temperature more particularly night temperature, however, remained a couple of degree lower than corresponding period of last year. Sporadic incidence of Helopeltis and Red spider was recorded in some estates irrespective of location. However, Blister blight was recorded in Mirik valley, Rung Bung valley and Darjeeling east.

Region: Dooars

Sub Area	Crop position (% + /-)		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
Damdin	+ 17.6	NA	218	7	36	20
Chulsa	+ 15.2	NA	221	7	33	20
Nagrakata	NA	NA	90	10	30	20
Binnaguri	- 5.3	NA	78	7	34	17
Dalgaon	+ 4.2	NA	70	5	35	20
Kalchini	+ 6.2	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Jainti	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Goalpara	+ 9.3	NA	224	NA	NA	NA

Remarks:

The month was better cropping month for the tea estates across all sub districts of Dooars with most of the tea estates harvesting higher crop compared to last year. Temperature recorded during the month was favourable for crop. Sporadic infestation of Helopeltis and Looper caterpillar was recorded in some estates.

(Issued by Chief Advisory Officer, Tocklai)